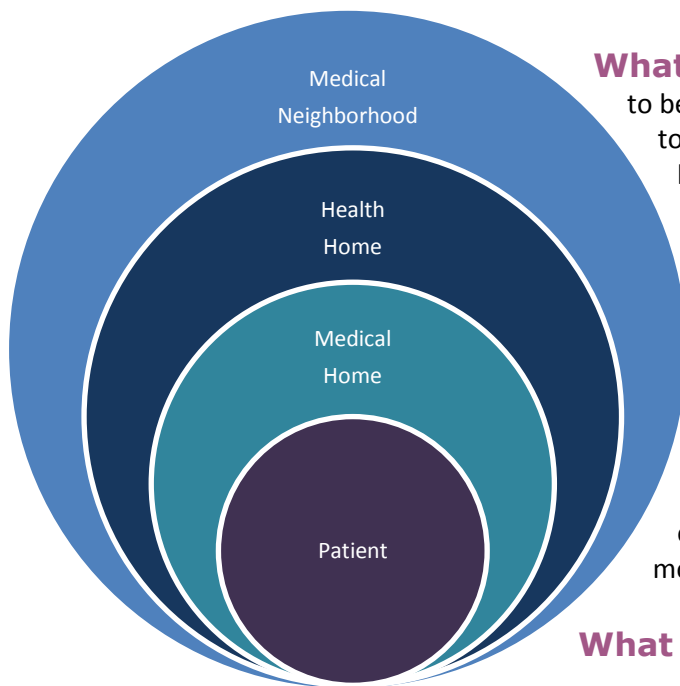


# Relationship of Medical Home, Health Home, and Medical Neighborhood

## What is a Medical Home?

A Medical Home is not a house, office, or hospital, but rather an approach to providing comprehensive primary care. In a medical home, a Primary Care Provider (PCP) works in partnership with the child/youth and their family to assure that the medical and non-medical needs of the child/youth are met. Through this partnership, the PCP can help the child/youth and family access and coordinate specialty care, educational services, family support, and other public and private community services that are important to the overall health of the child/youth and family. The American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) describes the ideal Medical Home as one that provides "accessible, continuous, comprehensive, family centered, coordinated, compassionate, and culturally effective care."<sup>1</sup> Though many Medical Home implementations focus on children with special health care needs, "every child deserves a Patient Centered Medical Home."<sup>2</sup>



**What is a Health Home?** Health homes are designed to be person-centered systems of care that facilitate access to, and coordination of, the full array of primary and acute health services for patients with chronic health conditions. The health home model of service delivery expands on the traditional medical home model by building additional linkages to community based services and supports and enhancing coordination of care. The Health Home model emphasizes integration of medical and behavioral health care to better meet the needs of patients with chronic health conditions. The Health Home model aims to improve health care quality and clinical outcomes as well as the patient care experience, while also reducing per capita costs through more cost-effective and efficient care.<sup>3</sup>

## What is a Medical Neighborhood?

The medical neighborhood is a Patient Centered Medical Home (PCMH) that is encompassed with the constellation of a variety of clinical and support services that provide health care services to patients within the "neighborhood", along with community and social service organizations and state and local public health entities. Defined in this way, the PCMH and the surrounding medical neighborhood can focus on meeting the needs of the individual patient but also incorporate aspects of population health and overall community health needs in its objectives.<sup>4</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Rushton FE Jr. 'The Pediatrician's Role in Community Pediatrics'. Pediatrics. 2005;115(4): 1092- 4. PubMed

<sup>2</sup> "Policy statement: the Medical Home". Pediatrics. 2004;113(5 Suppl):1545-7. PubMed

<sup>3</sup> "Focus on Health Reform" The Henry Kaiser Family Foundation, January 2011 located at [www.kff.org](http://www.kff.org)

<sup>4</sup> Taylor EF, Lake T, Nysenbaum J, Peterson G, Meyers D. Coordinating care in the medical neighborhood: critical components and available mechanisms. White Paper (Prepared by Mathematica Policy Research under Contract No. HHSA290200900019I TO2). AHRQ Publication No. 11-0064. Rockville, MD: Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality. June 2011